

Legal Notice

Notice of 30-Day Opportunity to Comment Outfitter-guide Priority Permit Issuance and Forest Plan Amendment Tonto National Forest

The Forest Service, Tonto National Forest, is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the issuance of priority (up to 10 year) outfitter-guide permits and amendment of the Forest Plan to create a Total Service Day allocation pool. This action would apply to all districts on the Tonto National Forest. The proposed action description and other information is available for review at www.fs.usda.gov/tonto and at the Forest Supervisor's Office, 2324 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Greg Schuster, (602) 225-5362 or gschuster@fs.fed.us.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the *Arizona Capitol Times*. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period.

Written comments must be submitted to: Neil Bosworth, Forest Supervisor, Attn: Outfitter-guide Project, 2324 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ, 85006, or may be faxed to 602-225-5295. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 to 4:30 Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone 602-225-5362 or in person at the address above. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to comments-southwestern-tonto@fs.fed.us. To be eligible for appeal, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. All comments received and the names and addresses of those who comment will be placed in the project file and become a matter of public record.

Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must meet the information requirements of *36 CFR 215.6*.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.